

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AF-10
ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 OES-07 EPA-01 /115 W
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: 32UNGA, EGEN
SUBJECT: 32ND UNGA SECOND COMMITTEE: HABITAT

REF: STATE 270032

1. SUMMARY: USUN ADVISED KEY DELS OF US POSITION, PER REFTEL.
REACTIONS FAVOR ALLOWING GENEVA COMPROMISE TO SERVE AS BASIS FOR
INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS, ASSESSING STRENGTH OF ALTERNATIVES AT THAT
TIME, AND THEN MAKING PREFERENCE KNOWN AS MOST CONSTRUCTIVE US
POSTURE AT THIS POINT. END SUMMARY.

2. PER REFTEL INSTRUCTIONS, USUN CONTACTED CANADA, UK, KENYA, JAPAN,
SWEDEN, AUSTRALIA AND FRG AND MADE SUBSTANCE OF US POSITION KNOWN TO
THEM. SUMMARIZING REACTIONS, THEY WERE: 1) SURPRISE AT USG CHANGE OF
POSITION; 2) PREFERENCE FOR PROCEEDING WITH INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS
TUESDAY ON BASIS OF GENEVA COMPROMISE; 3) APPRECIATION FOR EARLY
INDICATION OF US THINKING. SPECIFIC REACTIONS FOLLOW.

3. KENYA: WHILE THEIR FIRST AND FAVORED POSITION SINCE THE HABITAT
CONFERENCE HAD BEEN AN ALL-UNEP SOLUTION, AFTER CLOSE EXMINATION OF
WHAT IS NEEDED TO RESOLVE DILEMMA, AND HAVING BEEN IN ALMOST DAILY
CONTACT WITH THE ITALIAN ON PROCEDURES AND HEADCOUNTS, KENYANS ARE
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CONVINCED THAT AN ALL-UNEP PROPOSAL IS NOT A VIABLE SOLUTION. THEY
HAVE THUS DECIDED THAT THE GENEVA OPTION IS ONLY ONE WITH SOME
PROSPECT OF GAINING BROAD-BASED SUPPORT, HAVE BEGUN TO SEEK CO-
SPONSORS FOR IT, AND HAD FAVORABLE REACTIONS FROM SEVERAL COUNTRIES,
INCLUDING SWEDEN AND CANAD. (MANY WERE AWAITING APPROVAL FROM
CAPITALS.) KENYANS DID NOT BELIEVE CHANCES FOR SOLUTION WOULD
BE ENHANCED IF US WENT PUBLIC WITH ITS PREFERENCE NOW. RATHER,

THEY FEARED IT MIGHT MUDDY THE WATER AND SLOW MOMENTUM FOR CONCEIVABLY FRUITFUL DISCUSSIONS WHICH ARE TO START NOV 15 ON BASIS OF GENEVA COMPROMISE, WHICH WOULD BE THE STARTING POINT. (THIS HAD BEEN AGREED TO BY THE ITALIANS.) ACCORDINGLY, THE MOST USEFUL US ROLE WOULD BE TO LET INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS RUN THEIR EARLY COURSE, WITH THE EXPECTANT AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE ITALISN, CANADIANS, UK AND CONCEIVABLY OTHERS, THEN LEND OUR WEIGHT TO SOLUTION WHICH IS MOST ATTRACTIVE TO US AND MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED. (FYI. MOST OF KENYAN COMMENTS RE INTENTIONS OF INDIVIDUALS DELS CONFIRMED BY THOSE DELS. END FYI)

4. CANADA: THEY AGREED WITH BASIC US OBJECTIVE TO SEE ISSUE RESOLVED THIS UNGA, BUT NOT IN HOW TO ACHIEVE IT. THEY HAD TAKEN THEIR OWN HEAD-COUNT CONCLUDED THAT NEITHER EXTREME (UNEP/NAIROBI NOR ESA/NY) COULD SUCCEED, AND THEREFORE IF ONE WANTED TO RESOLVE THE MATTER IT WOULD HAVE TO BE BY COMPROMISE. CANADA WAS THUS INTENDING TO JOIN AS GENEVA COMPROMISE CO-SPONSOR, AND WOULD SEEK TO EXPLORE DURING THE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS, WAYS OF MODIFYING THE PRESENT TEXT TO LIMIT THE "INDEPENDENT AGENCY" ELEMENTS OF IT.

5. SWEDEN: THEY WERE PREPARED TO CO-SPONSOR GENEVA COMPROMISE DESPITE THEIR EARLY PREFERENCES FOR AN ALL-UNEP SOLUTION BECAUSE THEY TOO DID NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD SUCCEED.

6. JAPAN AND UK: BOTH TOOK US POSITION WITH GREAT SURPRISE AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONCERN. THEY ARE STRONGEST AND MOST ACTIVE SUPPORTERS OF ESA/NEW YORK SOLUTION AND BOTH FELT THAT THE ALL UNEP SOLUTION HAD RAMIFICATIONS WHICH WERE NEGATIVE TO UNEP AND THE SYSTEM AS A WHOLE. THEY ARGUED THIS WAS NOT AN ENVIRONMENTAL BUT A DEVELOPMENTAL CONCERN AND THE UN PROGRAMS IN THIS FIELD SHOULD REFLECT THIS ORIENTATION. CONSOLIDATION OF HUMAN SETTLEMENT ACTIVITIES FULLY UNDER UNEP WOULD SKEW THAT INSTITUTION AWAY FROM ITS PRIMARY ENVIRONMENTAL TASKS, AND FURTHER, BRING IT SQUARELY INTO OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES. FROM ITS PRESENT FUNCTION AS A COORDINATING BODY IT WOULD INSTANTLY BE TRANSFORMED INTO

ONE ENGAGING DIRECTLY IN OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES, COMPETING FOR FUNDS WITH UNDP, WHO, FAO AND UNESCO, AND THIS WOULD HAVE SIGNIFICANT NEGATIVE IMPACT ON ITS CAPACITY AND ACCEPTABILITY BY THOSE AGENCIES OF IT AS A COORDINATOR IN ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS. THE JAPANESE DEL THOUGHT SOME MODIFICATION OF THE GENEVA COMPROMISE, I.E., TO HAVE THE ACC SERVICE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS IN TERMS OF SYSTEM-WIDE COORDINATION AND ECOSOC SERVE AS THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL BODY WOULD BE MORE IN KEEPING WITH RESTRUCTURING CONSIDERATIONS THAN ANY SHIFT TO THE ALL-UNEP SOLUTION. EACH HOPED WE WOULD RECONSIDER OUR POSITION, NEITHER FIRMLY INDICATED WHETHER THEY WOULD NOW SUBMIT A COUNTER RESOLUTION.

7. AUSTRALIA AND FRG: BOTH DELS INDICATED USG VIEWS RAN COUNTER TO THEIR CURRENT INSTRUCTIONS AND LONG HELD VIEWS. AFTER TWO THOROUGH DISCUSSIONS OF THE SUBJECT (31UNGA AND 63 ECOSOC) THEIR INCLINATION WAS TO HAVE GREATER OPTIMISM IN THE SYSTEM'S BEST EFFORT TO DATE.

8. BASED ON ABOVE CONVERSATIONS IT WOULD APPEAR THAT BEST WAY TO GAUGE DELEGATION VIEWS AND ALL ALTERNATIVES WOULD BE IN INFORMAL CONSULTATION CONTEXT SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NOVEMBER 15.
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USUNN04632
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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